

	Huron School District #2-2	Code: BFB Public Participation at Board Meetings
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Public Participation at Board Meetings

Regular, special, and emergency meetings of the Board are open to the public. Executive sessions are not open to the public. The Board, as an elected representative body of the school district, wishes to provide an opportunity for citizens to express interests and concerns related to the school district.

Board meetings are conducted for the purpose of carrying on the official business of the school district. The meetings are not public forum meetings, but are meetings held in public. The purpose of Board meetings is to discuss, deliberate, and, when appropriate, take actions on the issues presented to the Board by the Superintendent or other Board members.

The Board welcomes citizens of the district to attend its sessions so they may become better acquainted with the operation and programs of the schools.

In order to ensure that citizens who wish to appear before the Board, and, at the same time, conduct its meeting properly and efficiently, the following procedures have been adopted:

1. Any individual who desires to speak about an item on the agenda must notify the superintendent or the Board president prior to the beginning of the meeting. The request to speak may be communicated orally or in written form. The individual may speak on the item when the agenda item is called. The person addressing the Board may not engage in a debate with the Board about the items. Each person is to state their position in a clear, concise manner. The person may ask for clarification on an item. As appropriate, the Board president may authorize a Board member or the administration to clarify the issue.
2. Persons who wish to speak about an item that is not on the agenda must notify the superintendent or the Board president prior to the beginning of the meeting. Persons who present such a request will be allowed to speak about the topic before the meeting is adjourned during community input. However, no response will be made by the Board or superintendent without further study of the issue presented. Community input is not designed as a forum to discuss personnel or specific students. Patrons are encouraged to use our grievance procedure to address such concerns.
3. Citizens who wish to have an item included on an agenda for a future board meeting shall submit the item to the superintendent's office at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting of the Board at which they desire for the item to be included. The superintendent shall refer the citizen to the appropriate party if the item is confidential, concerns personnel in the district, or is more appropriate to be handled by the Board's grievance policy prior to inclusion as an agenda item. The citizen bringing the item may present to the Board why he/she brought the item to the Board. Agenda items may or may not be addressed by the board at that initial meeting or any subsequent meetings. The board may ask questions as necessary to clarify the issue or item of concern, but may or may not take further action. Emergency items may be considered at the discretion of the Board.
4. Presentations should be as brief as possible. Unless an extension of time is granted, a speaker shall be limited to five (5) minutes or to such limitations as imposed by the Board president. Total time for

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testimony on a topic will be limited to fifteen (15) minutes per side. Any additional time is at the discretion of the Board president. Any comments or questions for the Board outside of these parameters during the meeting must be demonstrated by a raising of the hand and may be allowed at the discretion of the Board president. The Board encourages public input, but must also conduct business before the Board in a timely manner.

The Board vests in its president or other presiding officer authority to:

- Terminate the remarks of any individual when he/she does not adhere to the rules established above;
- Prohibit public comments which are frivolous, repetitive, or harassing;
- Interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant;
- Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person behaves in a manner that is disruptive of the orderly conduct of the meeting;
- Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting
- Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action.